

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 6-8, 16 and 24-26 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 2 and 6-8 have been canceled without prejudice by the present Amendment.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103

Withdrawal is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 1-2 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,633,520 ("Wu").

Withdrawal is also respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 6-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wu in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,339,000 ("Bhattacharya").

In order to place the application in condition for allowance, Applicants have canceled claims 1, 2 and 6-8 without prejudice or disclaimer.

As such, Applicants submit that the rejections of claims 1, 2 and 6-8 are rendered moot.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 1-2 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), and of claims 6-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), and that the application is in condition for allowance.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication that claims 16 and 24-26 are allowed.

An early and favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner has any further questions or comments, the Examiner may telephone Applicants' Attorney to reach a prompt disposition of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Michael F. Morano", is written over a horizontal line.

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